

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims are presented herein for convenience. No amendments have been made. Please cancel claims 1-17 and 21-28 as follows:

Claims 1-17 (Canceled).

18. (Original) A method for promoting the formation, maintenance or repair of tissue, which comprises the step of administering, to a subject in need thereof, an effective amount of an agent that induces a leptin or leptin receptor-mediated angiogenic response in the subject.
19. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein the angiogenic response affects vascular cells in the subject.
20. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein the agent is administered locally and the vascular cell response occurs locally.

Claims 21-28 (Canceled).